January 22, 2004

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Fr:

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg. No. 37,761

28 Davis Avenue

Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603

Subject:

Serial No.

10/002,987

11/30/01

F. DAI ET AL

"A NOVEL METHOD TO ACHIEVE STI PLANARIZATION"

Grp. Art Unit: 2822

PAMELA E. PERKINS

## RESPONSE PATENT OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 19, 2003, please consider the following remarks concerning the above-identified application for patent:

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 22, 2004.

Rosemary L. S. Pike. Reg # 39,332